

and Brenda; his wife, Gina; their two daughters, Ashton and Brandie; sister, Julie; Julie's children, Tisa, Rachelle, and Ryan; and hundreds of friends.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in remembering Randy Rhoads, in thanking him for his many gifts to others, and in sending our condolences to his family and friends. Godspeed, Randy.

---

RECOGNIZING CSM STEPHEN  
BLAKE

**HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 18, 2012*

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Stephen Blake, Command Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command. Today CSM Blake is retiring after 30 years of service to the U.S. Army and our country.

CSM Blake has served with distinction throughout his career. He has completed multiple overseas tours including combat tours in Southwest Asia during Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom, and a tour in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He has earned numerous awards and decorations.

During his time at ASC Headquarters at Rock Island Arsenal, CSM Blake and his wife Karen have been tremendous ambassadors for the Army to communities throughout Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois. They have opened their home and generously shared their time. The Quad City region is a better place because they are in it.

Since CSM Blake arrived at Rock Island Arsenal in 2008 I have observed and admired his service to soldiers, military families, and our community. I've seen him embrace and support Gold Star Families. He has mentored community leaders including my own staff. Through his words and actions he consistently demonstrates compassion for others. He does what all of us are called to do: help each other.

Congratulations to CSM Blake and the entire Blake family. We are grateful for your service.

---

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 18, 2012*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 26, 1995, when the last attempt at a balanced budget amendment passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 300–132, the national debt was \$4,801,405,175,294.28.

Today, it is \$15,236,288,061,558.65. We've added \$10,434,882,886,264.37 dollars to our debt in 16 years. This is \$10 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

GOVERNOR BILL JANKLOW

**HON. KRISTI L. NOEM**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 18, 2012*

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the passing of Governor Bill Janklow, who served the state of South Dakota with great dedication and resolve. His persistence and ambition to achieve great things for South Dakota were truly one of a kind. My family's thoughts and prayers go out to Mary Dean and the rest of Governor Janklow's family during this difficult time. He was a passionate advocate for our State and will be missed.

Because I will be attending his funeral service today, I will not be present for the vote on H.J. Res. 98, which states the disapproval of the President's exercise of authority to increase the debt limit. If present, I would have voted "yes" in favor of the resolution.

---

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MR.  
DONALD L. FERFOLIA

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 18, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor of the memory of Mr. Donald Louis Ferfolia, a man who was dedicated to his family and the Catholic Church.

Mr. Ferfolia was born on February 11, 1929 to his parents, Louis and Theresa Ferfolia. He was a licensed embalmer for 61 years and eventually became the president and chief executive officer of Ferfolia Funeral Homes.

Mr. Ferfolia was a dedicated member of the Catholic Church. He was a member of St. Wenceslas Church until its closing when he became a parishioner at St. Basil the Great Catholic Church in Brecksville. He was a member, and at one time the president, of the Maple Heights Catholic Club. Donald was also a founding member of the Callistian Guild, "an organization dedicated to the fundamental principle that the poorest of God's children are entitled to be buried with dignity."

I offer my condolences to his wife of 61 years, Alice; children, Donald B. Sr. (Margaret), Donna (the late C. Richard III) Mark L. Sr. (Christine) and Mary (Jeffrey A. Sr.); grandchildren, Donald B. Jr. (Dawn), Maureen, Joseph (Leanne), Allyson, Michelle (Michael), Megan, Colleen, Jeffrey (Erin), Kristin, Brian (fiancee, Anne), Meredith, Mark Jr., Rachael, Alex, Amy, Jeffrey Jr., Christina, Susan, Richard and Paige; great-grandchildren Ryan, Lauren, Donna, Caroline, Isadora and Julia; brother-in-law of Robert (Donna), Elaine and the late Carol Bandsuh (the late Richard).

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Mr. Donald L. Ferfolia. His contributions to Northeast Ohio and the Catholic community will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO KATHERINE E.  
McCARRON

**HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 18, 2012*

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Mr. BRADY, our Ranking Member, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Katherine E. McCarron who is leaving the House to take a position with the Federal Trade Commission. Ms. McCarron served in the Office of the General Counsel for nearly 4 years as an Assistant Counsel. We will miss her.

Ms. McCarron provided frequent and invaluable legal advice and representation to the Committee on House Administration, as well as to Members, officers and other committees of the House more generally. Our staff came to rely on her expertise and guidance, particularly in connection with their internal oversight activities. Over the years, Ms. McCarron played a significant role in safeguarding the legal and institutional interests of the House of Representatives.

Ms. McCarron served the House with great distinction, and we know she will serve the Federal Trade Commission with that same level of distinction. On behalf of the Committee on House Administration, we thank Ms. McCarron for her devoted service, and extend to her our very best wishes for her continued success.

---

REMEMBERING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF THE TUSKEGEE AIR-  
MEN

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 18, 2012*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is important that we remember the contributions of the Tuskegee Airmen in protecting our freedom and way of life during World War II. These heroic World War II veterans just recently celebrated the 70th anniversary of their first training session on July 19, 1941. It is important that we constantly remind ourselves of the sacrifices of veterans in pursuit of our liberty.

The Tuskegee Airmen were not only heroes but pioneers, becoming the first African Americans to pilot and instruct others on how to fly combat aircraft. Though only approximately 140 Tuskegee pilots remain, it is essential we celebrate their accomplishments as a realization of the American Dream that inspired millions of African Americans, as Congress did in 1998 by establishing Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site in Tuskegee, Alabama.

The Tuskegee Airmen fought courageously for their country at a time when they were denied vital freedoms and liberties at home. They endured segregation and hostility from the local community, and especially stringent standards meant to exclude as many of them as possible from the piloting program. When they finally reached combat, they fought in segregated units, but still managed to distinguish themselves—engaging in over 200 bomber escort missions, damaging or destroying 409 German aircraft, and sunk a battleship